

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. memory card connector, comprising:

an insulative housing having a rear terminal-mounting section which mounts a plurality of terminals having contact portions for engaging appropriate contacts on a memory card;

a metal shell mounted on the housing and combining therewith to define a cavity having a front insertion opening to permit insertion and withdrawal of the memory card into and out of the connector;

a card eject mechanism including a slider movably mounted on the housing and engageable with the memory card for movement therewith into and out of the cavity, the slider having a cam slot defining movement of the card in the card-insertion and card-withdrawal directions; and

a cam pin operatively engageable in the cam slot of the slider, the cam pin being formed from the metal shell.

2. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said cam pin comprises a projection stamped and formed out of the metal shell.

3. The memory card connector of claim 2 wherein said projection is near a distal end of a flexible arm stamped and formed out of the metal shell.

4. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said metal shell includes a top cover plate overlying at least a portion of said cavity and at least one side wall plate depending from the top cover plate.

5. The memory card connector of claim 4 wherein said cam pin comprises a projection stamped and formed out of the side wall plate of the metal shell.

6. The memory card connector of claim 5 wherein said projection is near a distal end of a flexible arm stamped and formed out of the side wall plate of the metal shell.

7. The memory card connector of claim 4 wherein said cam pin comprises a projection stamped and formed out of the top cover plate of the metal shell.
8. The memory card connector of claim 7 wherein said projection is near a distal end of a flexible arm stamped and formed out of the top cover plate of the metal shell.
9. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said metal shell includes a flexible arm stamped and formed therefrom, and said cam pin is formed by a bent portion near a distal end of the flexible arm.
10. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said metal shell includes a flexible arm stamped and formed therefrom, and said cam pin comprises a post attached to a distal end of the flexible arm.
11. A memory card connector, comprising:
 - an insulative housing having a rear terminal-mounting section which mounts a plurality of terminals having contact portions for engaging appropriate contacts on a memory card;
 - a stamped and formed metal shell mounted on the housing and combining therewith to define a cavity having a front insertion opening to permit insertion and withdrawal of the memory card into and out of the connector, the metal shell including a top cover plate overlying at least a portion of the cavity, at least one side wall plate depending from the top cover plate and a stamped and formed flexible arm; and
 - a card eject mechanism including a slider movably mounted on the housing and engageable with the memory card for movement therewith into and out of the cavity, the slider having a cam slot defining movement of the card in the card-insertion and card-withdrawal directions and a cam pin integral with said flexible arm and engageable in the cam slot.
12. The memory card connector of claim 11 wherein said flexible arm is stamped and formed out of the side wall plate of the metal shell, with the cam pin being defined by a projection near a distal end of the arm.

13. The memory card connector of claim 11 wherein said flexible arm is stamped and formed out of the top cover plate of the metal shell with the cam pin being defined by a projection near a distal end of the arm.

AMENDED CLAIMS

received by the International Bureau on 15 April 2005 (15.04.05): original claims 1-13 have been replaced by amended claims 1-10.

What is claimed is:

1. A memory card connector (10), including:
 - an insulative housing (12) having a rear terminal-mounting section (26) which mounts a plurality of terminals (34) having contact portions (34a) for engaging appropriate contacts on a memory card (22);
 - a metal shell (14) mounted on the housing and combining therewith to define a cavity (18) having a front insertion opening (20) to permit insertion and withdrawal of the memory card into and out of the connector;
 - a card eject mechanism (24) including a slider (50) movably mounted on the housing and engageable with the memory card for movement therewith into and out of the cavity, the slider having a cam slot (52) defining movement of the card in the card-insertion and card-withdrawal directions; and
 - a cam pin (64) operatively engageable in the cam slot of the slider,the memory card connector characterized in that the cam pin is formed from the metal shell (14).
2. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said cam pin comprises a projection (64) stamped and formed out of the metal shell (14).
3. The memory card connector of claim 2 wherein said projection (64) is near a distal end of a flexible arm (60) stamped and formed out of the metal shell (14).
4. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said metal shell (14) includes a top cover plate (38) overlying at least a portion of said cavity (18) and at least one side wall plate (40) depending from the top cover plate.
5. The memory card connector of claim 4 wherein said cam pin comprises a projection (64) stamped and formed out of the side wall plate (40) of the metal shell (14).

6. The memory card connector of claim 5 wherein said projection (64) is near a distal end of a flexible arm (60) stamped and formed out of the side wall plate (40) of the metal shell (14).

7. The memory card connector of claim 4 wherein said cam pin comprises a projection (64) stamped and formed out of the top cover plate (38) of the metal shell (14).

8. The memory card connector of claim 7 wherein said projection (64) is near a distal end of a flexible arm (60) stamped and formed out of the top cover plate (38) of the metal shell (14).

9. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said metal shell (14) includes a flexible arm (60) stamped and formed therefrom, and said cam pin (64) is formed by a bent portion near a distal end of the flexible arm.

10. The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said metal shell (14) includes a flexible arm (60) stamped and formed therefrom, and said cam pin comprises a post (64) attached to a distal end of the flexible arm.